



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Amendment

LCO No. 7296

HB0542507296HDO

Offered by:

REP. JARMOC, 59th Dist.

REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.

SEN. DOYLE, 9th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5425

File No. 498

Cal. No. 319

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (a) of section 17a-3 of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

6 (a) The department shall plan, create, develop, operate or arrange
7 for, administer and evaluate a comprehensive and integrated
8 state-wide program of services, including preventive services, for
9 children and youths whose behavior does not conform to the law or to
10 acceptable community standards, or who are mentally ill, including
11 deaf and hearing impaired children and youths who are mentally ill,
12 emotionally disturbed, substance abusers, delinquent, abused,
13 neglected or uncared for, including all children and youths who are or

14 may be committed to it by any court, and all children and youths
15 voluntarily admitted to, or remaining voluntarily under the
16 supervision of, the commissioner for services of any kind. Services
17 shall not be denied to any such child or youth solely because of other
18 complicating or multiple disabilities. The department shall work in
19 cooperation with other child-serving agencies and organizations to
20 provide or arrange for preventive programs, including, but not limited
21 to, teenage pregnancy and youth suicide prevention, for children and
22 youths and their families. The program shall provide services and
23 placements that are clinically indicated and appropriate to the needs of
24 the child or youth in the least restrictive environment. In furtherance of
25 this purpose, the department shall: (1) Maintain the Connecticut
26 Juvenile Training School and other appropriate facilities exclusively
27 for delinquents; (2) develop a comprehensive program for prevention
28 of problems of children and youths and provide a flexible, innovative
29 and effective program for the placement, care and treatment of
30 children and youths committed by any court to the department,
31 transferred to the department by other departments, or voluntarily
32 admitted to the department; (3) provide appropriate services to
33 families of children and youths as needed to achieve the purposes of
34 sections 17a-1 to 17a-26, inclusive, 17a-28 to 17a-49, inclusive, and
35 17a-51; (4) establish incentive paid work programs for children and
36 youths under the care of the department and the rates to be paid such
37 children and youths for work done in such programs and may provide
38 allowances to children and youths in the custody of the department;
39 (5) be responsible to collect, interpret and publish statistics relating to
40 children and youths within the department; (6) conduct studies of any
41 program, service or facility developed, operated, contracted for or
42 supported by the department in order to evaluate its effectiveness; (7)
43 establish staff development and other training and educational
44 programs designed to improve the quality of departmental services
45 and programs, provided no social worker trainee shall be assigned a
46 case load prior to completing training, and may establish educational
47 or training programs for children, youths, parents or other interested
48 persons on any matter related to the promotion of the well-being of

49 children, or the prevention of mental illness, emotional disturbance,
50 delinquency and other disabilities in children and youths; (8) develop
51 and implement aftercare and follow-up services appropriate to the
52 needs of any child or youth under the care of the department; (9)
53 establish a case audit unit to monitor each area office's compliance
54 with regulations and procedures; (10) develop and maintain a database
55 listing available community service programs funded by the
56 department; (11) provide outreach and assistance to persons caring for
57 children whose parents are unable to do so by informing such persons
58 of programs and benefits for which they may be eligible; and (12)
59 collect data sufficient to identify the housing needs of children served
60 by the department and share such data with the Department of
61 Economic and Community Development."